

### Immunization Data Quality Self-assessment is conducted in Bolivia

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<b>Location</b>	La Paz, Bolivia
<b>Dates</b>	8-20 March 2018
<b>Participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International advisors from Chile, Nicaragua, Dominican Republic, Colombia; PAHO/WHO consultants from Washington, DC and Bolivia;</li> <li>• Representatives from Bolivia's Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) and National Information System in Health (SNIS in Spanish) in the Ministry of Health;</li> <li>• Information systems officers.</li> </ul>
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>The DQS aimed to analyze the status of immunization data and EPI information systems and provide recommendations to address any weaknesses identified in the system. The proposed specific objectives of this assessment were to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Assess the quality aspects of the information system, completeness and timeliness of reporting, and accuracy of coverage;</li> <li>2) Promote the analysis and use of the data in various levels to improve management of the immunization program.</li> </ol>

The last DQS conducted in Bolivia was in 2010 and the pilot test for a data quality evaluation tool was done in 2012. This year's DQS followed the methodology developed by WHO. After adopting and validating the investigation forms through a pilot test, the assessment took place at the national level and in Bolivia's nine subnational departments. The advisors visited 27 districts, 54 health centers and approximately 280 persons were interviewed. The selection of these places was based on coverage, drop-out rates, population, performance-based indicators and logistics.

The program's strengths and weaknesses were identified by calculating data quality indicators, completeness and timeliness of reporting, as well as the information system's quality. Recommendations were made based on these analyses for the following areas: management (at all levels, including biologicals); registries, archiving and the flow of reporting practices; monitoring and evaluation; training and supervision; and demographic information and planning.

Based on the findings, the advisors recommended strengthening training and supervision of human resources in the various levels of management of the program and sustaining efforts to improve the design and functionality of the information system.

On 20 March, a draft report with results from the DQS was presented and delivered to health authorities and to national evaluation teams, recognizing both the country's data quality improvement and challenges that are still pending, as well as urging Bolivia to continue efforts to sustain these achievements.



# PAHO Immunization GIN Articles

(GLOBAL IMMUNIZATION NEWSLETTER)



Credit: Ministry of Health-Bolivia; PAHO/WHO

For more information (in Spanish), please go to:

<https://www.minsalud.gob.bo/3160-evaluacion-internacional-aprueba-la-calidad-de-informacion-de-bolivia-referente-al-proceso-de-vacunacion>

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